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## Child protection policy - ASPIRA

### Article 1

Aspira is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children with whom it works. It is aware of its responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse, exploitation or any other form of harm.

Child abuse is anything done or not done by individuals, institutions or processes that directly or indirectly harms children or jeopardises their chances of a safe and healthy life and safe development into adulthood. Abuse can be physical, psychological, sexual or based on neglect, exploitation or child labour.

For the purposes of this policy and related procedures, a child is a person under the age of 18.

### Article 2

The responsibility to protect children lies with all our staff and volunteers who will work with us. This duty of care is enshrined in our Safeguarding Children Policy, which states:

- Aspira will only recruit, train, support people who are suitable to work with children. Aspira will supervise its staff and volunteers to adopt best practice to safeguard and protect children from abuse and reduce risk to themselves.
- It will require staff and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Child Protection Policy and these procedures.
- Respond to all allegations of child maltreatment or abuse in accordance with this policy and these procedures and implement appropriate disciplinary and grievance procedures as necessary.
- That all those associated with the organisation are aware of their obligations and respond appropriately to issues of child abuse or child sexual exploitation.

- That all those representing our organisation behave appropriately towards children and never abuse the trust that comes with working with Aspira.
- That everyone representing the organisation must actively co-create a safe environment in which everyone feels safe.
- That all activities and work programmes are designed to reduce or eliminate all critical risks to the children under our care.
- In this way, we ensure that Aspira is a safe place for children, respecting their rights.

### Article 3

In this document, Aspira commits itself to child protection, which includes taking measures to protect children from all forms of exploitation and abuse. We are committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business dealings.

The following principles guide our actions:

- The welfare of children is paramount.
- All children, regardless of age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, socio-economic status, religious belief and/or gender identity, have the right to protection from all forms of harm and abuse.
- Child protection is everyone's responsibility.
- Children have the right to express their views on all matters affecting them if they so wish.
- Aspira works in partnership with children and parents/carers to promote the welfare, health and development of children.
- We will use the means of awareness raising, prevention, response and reporting.
- We are committed to transparency in our work.

### Article 4

Aspira will:

- Promote the health and well-being of children by providing opportunities for safe participation in all activities it organises for this target group.

- Respect and promote the rights, wishes and feelings of children.
- Promote and implement appropriate procedures to ensure the well-being of children and protect them from abuse.
- Require staff, members and volunteers to accept and abide by this Child Protection Policy and these procedures.
- Respond to all allegations of child maltreatment or abuse in accordance with this policy and these procedures and implement appropriate disciplinary and grievance procedures as necessary.
- Follow guidelines issued by international, European or national child protection committees for the protection of children.
- Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this policy and these procedures.

### Article 5

This policy and these procedures will be kept under regular review:

- In line with changes in legislation and child protection guidelines or following any changes at Aspira.
- Following any issues or concerns regarding child protection in Aspira.
- In all other circumstances at least every three years.

Saša Ledinek, direktor

Trbovlje, 13.1.2021

